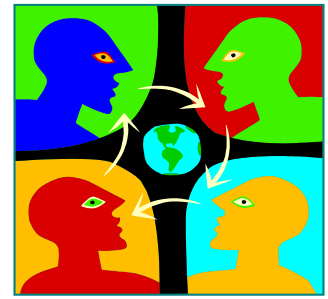


Facilitated Group Discussion Empowering Our Participants



What is facilitated group discussion (FGD)?

FGD is an interactive form of learner-centered education for groups where the learners discuss a specific topic and share their questions and knowledge with other group members. This allows learners to gather information from each other in a supportive environment where their culture, prior experience, and personal concerns are acknowledged and respected.

People are more likely to change behavior when they feel comfortable in their surroundings, are actively involved in the educational process, and develop the ability to reflect on their own behavior. FGD creates a safe learning environment that supports adult learning. Once educators and learners are comfortable with the techniques, the process of learning becomes engaging and dynamic for all involved.

What is the role of the facilitator in the discussion?

- Creating an atmosphere of acceptance
- Assessing the group's learning needs
- Asking open-ended questions
- Being an active listener
- Paraphrasing
- Encouraging full participation from all group members
- Guiding the discussion
- Correcting misinformation gracefully
- Summarizing the discussion

What do you need to make FGD work?

- Flexibility, confidence, good listening skills, and respect for the learners
- A working knowledge of the topic
- Adequate physical space for group discussions

References

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